



**U.S. Department of Justice**  
Drug Enforcement Administration  
FOI/Records Management Section  
8701 Morrisette Drive  
Springfield, Virginia 22152

**AUG 28 2019**

Case Number: 18-00349-F

Subject: All records and communications from October 26, 2017 to present between DEA and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) regarding the authority to allow expanded access to remote prescribing of medicines for substance abuse treatment by telemedicine granted by Trump administration's October 26, 2017 declaration of public health emergency resulting from opioid crisis and all records describing the processing of this request

Austin Evers  
American Oversight  
1030 15th St. N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
[foia@americanoversight.org](mailto:foia@americanoversight.org)

Dear Mr. Evers:

This letter responds to your Freedom of Information Act/Privacy Act (FOIA/PA) request dated February 15, 2018, addressed to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), FOIA/PA Unit, seeking access to information regarding the above subject.

By letter dated July 12, 2018, we notified you that three pages of records were sent for consultation regarding the release of information furnished by other government agencies. The consultations have been completed.

Certain materials identified during the processing of your request will be released to you. The portions withheld are exempt from disclosure pursuant to the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552, and/or the PA, 5 U.S.C. § 552a. Please refer to the list enclosed with this letter that identifies the authority for withholding the deleted material, which is indicated by a mark appearing in the block next to the exemption. An additional enclosure with this letter explains these exemptions in more detail. The agency documents you requested are enclosed with this letter.

The rules and regulations of the DEA applicable to FOIA requests are contained in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 28, Part 16, as amended. They are published in the Federal Register and are available for inspection by members of the public.

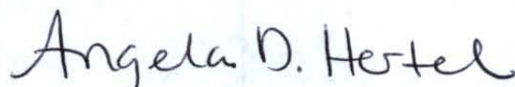
For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA. *See* 5 U.S.C. § 552(c). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of the FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist.

You may contact our FOIA Public Liaison at 202-307-7596 for any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, Room 2510, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001; e-mail at [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov); telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

If you are not satisfied with my response to this request, you may administratively appeal by writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), United States Department of Justice, Sixth Floor, 441 G Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001, or you may submit an appeal through OIP's FOIAonline portal by creating an account on the following website: <https://www.foiaonline.gov/foiaonline/action/public/home>. Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within 90 days of the date of my response to your request. If you submit your appeal by mail, both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Act Appeal."

If you have any questions regarding this letter, you may contact Paralegal J. Nowaczynski at 202-307-4458.

Sincerely,



Angela D. Hertel, Acting Chief  
Freedom of Information/Privacy Act Unit  
FOI/Records Management Section



Number of pages released: 3

**APPLICABLE SECTIONS OF THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND/OR PRIVACY ACT:**

**Freedom of Information Act  
5 U.S.C. 552**

<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(1)	<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(5)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(C)
<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(2)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(6)	<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(D)
<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(3)	<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(A)	<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(E)
<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(4)	<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(B)	<input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(F)

Enclosures

**Privacy Act  
5 U.S.C. 552a**

<input type="checkbox"/> (d)(5)	<input type="checkbox"/> (k)(2)
<input type="checkbox"/> (j)(2)	<input type="checkbox"/> (k)(5)
<input type="checkbox"/> (k)(1)	<input type="checkbox"/> (k)(6)



**EXPLANATION OF EXEMPTIONS**  
**SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552**

- (b)(1) (A) specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy and (B) are in fact properly classified pursuant to such Executive order;
- (b)(2) related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency;
- (b)(3) specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than section 552b of this title), if that statute- (A)(i) requires that the matters be withheld from the public in such a manner as to leave no discretion on the issue; or (ii) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld; and (B) if enacted after the date of enactment of the OPEN FOIA Act of 2009, specifically cites to this paragraph.
- (b)(4) trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential;
- (b)(5) inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency;
- (b)(6) personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- (b)(7) records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, but only to the extent that the production of such law enforcement records or information (A) could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings, (B) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication, (C) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, (D) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of a confidential source, including a State, local, or foreign agency or authority or any private institution which furnished information on a confidential basis, and, in the case of a record or information compiled by criminal law enforcement authority in the course of a criminal investigation or by an agency conducting a lawful national security intelligence investigation, information furnished by a confidential source, (E) would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions, or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law, or (F) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual;
- (b)(8) contained in or related to examination, operating, or condition reports prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of an agency responsible for the regulation or supervision of financial institutions; or
- (b)(9) geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells.

**SUBSECTIONS OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 552a**

- (d)(5) information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action proceeding;
- (j)(2) material reporting investigative efforts pertaining to the enforcement of criminal law including efforts to prevent, control, or reduce crime or apprehend criminals;
- (k)(1) information which is currently and properly classified pursuant to an Executive order in the interest of the national defense or foreign policy, for example, information involving intelligence sources or methods;
- (k)(2) investigatory material compiled for law enforcement purposes, other than criminal, which did not result in loss of a right, benefit or privilege under Federal programs, or which would identify a source who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(3) material maintained in connection with providing protective services to the President of the United States or any other individual pursuant to the authority of Title 18, United States Code, Section 3056;
- (k)(4) required by statute to be maintained and used solely as statistical records;
- (k)(5) investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal civilian employment or for access to classified information, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished information pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence;
- (k)(6) testing or examination material used to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in Federal Government service the release of which would compromise the testing or examination process;
- (k)(7) material used to determine potential for promotion in the armed services, the disclosure of which would reveal the identity of the person who furnished the material pursuant to a promise that his/her identity would be held in confidence.



(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

**From:** Campbell, Taylor (HHS/OGC) (CTR) <Taylor.Campbell@hhs.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 08, 2018 8:39 AM  
**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Possible Teleconference re: Telemedicine

Hi (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

Listed below are all the participants for the call. The call in number is (877) 934-9715 code: (b)(6)

Paula Stannard, Immediate Office of the Secretary  
Mary-Sumpter Lapinski, Immediate Office of the Secretary  
John Brooks, Immediate Office of the Secretary  
Matthew Bowman, Office of the General Counsel  
Chris Jones, SAMHSA  
Steve Daviss, SAMHSA  
Chris Carroll, SAMHSA  
Alex Ross, HRSA  
Laina Bush, ASPE  
Gavin Kennedy, ASPE  
George Sigounas, HRSA  
Sarah-Lloyd Stevenson, Immediate Office of the Secretary  
Kathryn Bell, Immediate Office of the Secretary  
Ann Agnew, Executive Secretariat  
Wilma Robinson, Executive Secretariat  
Sam Shipley, Executive Secretariat  
Natasha Wright, Executive Secretariat  
Taylor Campbell, Executive Secretariat

Thank you,

**Taylor Campbell**

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Office of the Executive Secretary  
200 Independence Avenue, S.W., 618H  
Washington, DC 20201  
(202)690-8084  
[Taylor.Campbell@hhs.gov](mailto:Taylor.Campbell@hhs.gov)

**From:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) @usdoj.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 05, 2018 5:27 PM  
**To:** Campbell, Taylor (HHS/OGC) (CTR)  
**Subject:** RE: Possible Teleconference re: Telemedicine

Can you please confirm all participants that will be on the call? And what the call in number is? Thank you.

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

*Office of the Administrator*

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

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**From:** Campbell, Taylor (HHS/OGC) (CTR) [mailto:Taylor.Campbell@hhs.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 05, 2018 5:26 PM  
**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Possible Teleconference re: Telemedicine

Thank you very much.

**Taylor Campbell**

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Office of the Executive Secretary  
200 Independence Avenue, S.W., 618H  
Washington, DC 20201  
(202)690-8084  
[Taylor.Campbell@hhs.gov](mailto:Taylor.Campbell@hhs.gov)

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**From:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) [mailto:(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)@usdoj.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 05, 2018 5:20 PM  
**To:** Campbell, Taylor (HHS/OGC) (CTR)  
**Subject:** RE: Possible Teleconference re: Telemedicine

Please note AA Patterson will be on the call at 3pm. Thank you.

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

*Office of the Administrator*

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

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**From:** Campbell, Taylor (HHS/OGC) (CTR) [mailto:Taylor.Campbell@hhs.gov]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 01, 2018 3:39 PM  
**To:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)  
**Subject:** RE: Possible Teleconference re: Telemedicine

Unfortunately other schedules will not accommodate the time change. We can brief him after the call on what he missed. He can just join the call after his meeting.

Thank you,

**Taylor Campbell**

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Office of the Executive Secretary  
200 Independence Avenue, S.W., 618H  
Washington, DC 20201  
(202)690-8084  
[Taylor.Campbell@hhs.gov](mailto:Taylor.Campbell@hhs.gov)

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**From:** (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) [mailto:(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)@usdoj.gov]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 01, 2018 10:32 AM  
**To:** Campbell, Taylor (HHS/OGC) (CTR)  
**Subject:** Possible Teleconference re: Telemedicine

Good Morning Taylor,

I am reaching out with regards to the above subject meeting. I understand that HHS would like AA Patterson to participate in a conference call re: exploring telemedicine pursuant to a public health emergency for next Thursday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 3pm-4:30pm.

AA Patterson could possibly be available for the call if we can move it to 3:15 or 3:30pm, he has a meeting with visiting foreign officials until 3pm.

Please let me know if that works and who the confirmed participants will be from HHS.

Thank you.

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)

*Office of the Administrator*

(b)(6);(b)(7)(C)